

## **Philosophy of Athletics**

The role of interscholastic athletics at St. Clairsville High School is one of compatibility rather than exclusiveness. As the fundamental goal of any high school to enter society as a productive and responsible member, we feel that through participation in the athletic program, a student may grow and mature as he/she progresses through the many athletic experiences afforded by the school program.

Specifically, the St. Clairsville High School Athletic Department believes:

- In the values that interscholastic athletics provide.
- That there are substantial educational outcomes from a soundly conceived and executed program for the players, the student body and the school as a whole.
- That the potential values to the participants are genuine by providing adolescents the opportunity to develop ideas and habits of fair play, initiative, achievement and emotional control under prescribed regulations and policies.
- That students find purpose in their schoolwork and in their lives through a program of interscholastic athletics.
- That student can be taught to win with grace and lose with dignity.
- That athletics can provide for substantial physical and emotional growth and stability for the student-athlete.
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- That the athletic program though differing in nature from the academic program, justifies itself by providing a wide variety of educational experiences, which are not normally found in the classroom.
- That among other values, those of determination, self-sacrifice and commitment to personal achievement are stressed in any athletic program.
- That any interscholastic sports program should operate within a framework of sportsmanship, discipline and competitiveness.
- That sports, approached properly, can serve to greatly enhance the overall school spirit and morale.

## **Sportsmanship Characteristics**

1. Golden Rule
2. Don't have negative reactions
3. Do your best
4. Winning isn't everything
5. Try to have fun
6. Don't antagonize fans
7. Welcome the opposition
8. Respect officials
9. Play by the rules, don't bend them
10. Applaud when an injured player gets up
11. Congratulate opposing team win or lose after a game
12. Help opponent up after a fall
13. Tolerance
14. Respect
15. Leadership
16. Enthusiasm
17. Understanding
18. Controlled temper
19. Friendship
20. Politeness
21. Working together-teamwork
22. Pride
23. Patience
24. Motivation
25. Positive attitude –right mental attitude
26. Compromise
27. Spirit
28. Friendly rivalry
29. Control
30. Cooperation
31. Courteous
32. Responsibility (for actions)
33. Consideration for others
34. Complementing

**Sportsmanship  
Takes  
Teamwork!**

## **Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity**

The Board of Education recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that young people develop when they have the opportunity to participate in an organized activity outside of the traditional classroom.

Participants and responsible adults involved in Board approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice and competitions as is expected in the classroom. The Board further encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in all phases of the educational process and in all segments of the community, including administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents, fans spirit groups and support/booster groups.



## **Athletic Statement of Policies**

1. **Squad members of each team in our school are reminded that the color “black” or colors other than RED, GRAY and White are not permitted as the “dominant” color in any team uniform, warm-up clothes, t-shirts, etc. when worn at an “official” team function. These may be used as an “accent” color and only w/ prior permission from the H.S. Principal and or Athletic Director.**
2. Athletes must attend school for four periods to practice or participate in an athletic contest. The principal or the assistant principal must approve absence for any part of the day beyond this rule.
3. A player who accumulates 3 unexcused absences from any practice or contest they participate in during the school year will be dismissed from the squad. Unexcused absences will be up to the discretion of the head coach. As a guideline, the student handbook lists reasons for excused absences acceptable by the State of Ohio.
4. Any athlete who is under penalty of in school or out of school suspension will not be permitted to practice or play during the suspension. They will be eligible to return to practice or play the day following the end of the suspension. Times and days will be according to Ohio revised code and administration.
5. Only team members are permitted on the bench. Team includes: team, coaches, managers, trainers, doctors and a school administrator or designee if needed.
6. All practice games with other schools should be cleared with the Athletic Director.
7. When games are played away from St. Clairsville, players and coaches are to travel on school transportation unless other arrangements are made by the Athletic Director and approved by the Administration. Players may be released to travel home with their parents only. Parent’s permission and coach’s consent must be obtained. Players may be permitted to ride to or from an athletic event with their parents or the coach provided that: A) the situation or reasoning is prudent. B) The parent permission and head coach consent has been given and C) the written release form is on file. (File should include name of insurance carrier) \* Under no circumstances may an athlete drive or ride with another student.
8. \*\*Once a student starts a sport, that student may NOT transfer to another sport after 7 days from the first OHSAA designated practice start date. Students who quit after the 7 days also, may NOT participate in any other pre-season activity of another sport until either the conclusion of that season or the first practice date of the next season. \*\* (Adopted 6/14/10 after two readings)

9. An athlete can participate in only one sport per season. Exceptions: Coaches of the two sports “must,” agree and all conflicts must be worked out in advance. The student must choose ONE sport as the primary and have priority when activities are scheduled.

10. Injuries and Insurance:

- A. It is mandatory that all athletes have a physical and be covered by insurance. Each student must have a signed parental/permission waiver. Athletic insurance will not be offered by the school district.
- B. Catastrophic coverage for athletes shall be covered as prescribed by the OHSAA.
- C. There shall be a physician or ambulance in attendance at all home varsity football games.
- D. It is the coach’s responsibility to accompany or to see that another school official or a parent accompanies an injured player until they obtain first aid or are transported to the hospital for a physician’s treatment. The principal or athletic director should be notified before the next school day.
- E. Forms for Injuries:
  1. Emergency medical form (at all practices and games)
  2. Insurance form or insurance waiver form
  3. Injury record for the season
  4. Injury release from the doctor to return to practice
- F. A physical form must be filed in the Athletic Director’s office.

11. The Athletic Department of St. Clairsville High School is compelled to take every possible precaution to prevent accidents.

12. There will no practices conducted on Sunday unless previous permission has been given by the administration and these “cannot” be “mandatory”.

13. All coaches are required to complete a Sports Medicine Workshop (PAV) plus CPR and a 1 time NFHS Coaches Education Course.

14. Medical Emergency Policy:

The following procedures shall apply in all instances in which any student in extracurricular activities may be injured or harmed in any way:

- A. All injuries shall be reported to the trainer and or the coach immediately.
- B. If licensed medical personnel (physician and or nurse) are present, such personnel shall be notified immediately and shall be asked for assistance in supervising the care of the injured or harmed student until parental or emergency squad care becomes available.
- C. The trainer or coach shall notify immediately the person in charge of the activity.

- D. The Athletic Director and or trainer shall contact the parents and, if necessary, shall notify the emergency squad. Notification of the emergency squad shall be the decision of the person in charge and or the trainer. A school administrator should also be notified.
- E. All school personnel involved in dealing with medical emergencies of students shall follow Ohio Revised Code, Section 3313.712, which states, “Even if a parent gives written consent for emergency medical treatment, when a pupil becomes ill or is injured and requires emergency medical treatment while under school authority, or while engaged in an extracurricular activity authorized by the appropriate school authorities, the authorities of his/her school shall make reasonable attempts to contact the parent before treatment is given.”
- F. In no instance shall school personnel, without medical license, assume responsibility for either diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury of any student.
- G. The authorized school personnel in charge of any activity shall have available at all times emergency medical authorization form required by the school. Said form shall be given to the hospital and or practitioner rendering treatment.
- H. Within 24 hours, a written report giving circumstances, witnesses, etc., shall be filed with the administration. (Use accident report forms)
- I. Notify the athletic director or principal.

## **Hazing Recognition and Prevention**

It is the right of a student who is participating in high school athletics to be safe and free from humiliation and intimidation. The following information is what you need to know about recognizing and preventing hazing in your school.

**Defined:** Hazing can be a difficult term to precisely define as the hazing activity may be engaged in on a voluntary basis or be seemingly “light hearted” in nature. Typically in the high school setting, older members of the group force new members to show subservience to the veteran team members. As a result, the self-esteem of the new members is lowered because of being forced to complete humiliating acts or to endure intimidation. Hazing is an act, including physical, mental, or psychological, which subjects another person, voluntarily or involuntarily, to anything that may abuse, mistreat, degrade, humiliate, harass, or intimidate him/her, or which may, in any fashion, compromise his/her inherent dignity as a person. In most hazing incidents, student athletes are asked to violate school policies and state or federal law (ie., use of tobacco or alcohol).

Definition of hazing from the NFHS Interscholastic Athletic Administration magazine (winter, 2002):

Hazing can be defined as any act or ceremony, which creates the risk of harm to the student or to any other party and that, is committed as a form of initiation into a particular club or activity. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, activities that involve the risk of physical harm, whipping, branding, ingesting vile substances, sleep deprivation, over-exposure to heat or cold, restraint, nudity, or kidnapping. Hazing could also include actions or simulations of a sexual nature, activities that create a hostile, abusive, or intimidating environment for the student.

Clearly, statutorily mandated active preventative policies against hazing must by definition include student discipline when and if hazing should occur. Such policies (including discipline) actively enforced are mandated both to protect students and to avoid the civil and criminal liability of school personnel.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP**

### **Student Pep Groups**

All support organizations share the responsibility for promoting sportsmanship at games and events. Their intended purpose is to provide support, despite the outcome, in a positive manner. They have an enormous influence on behavior and are an important part of the educational process.

- Establish yourselves as leaders in your conduct before, during and after contests and events. Always provide positive support.
- Assist with chants and be a working part of pep assemblies with preparation, organization and involvement.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, fans and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- Conduct yourselves in an exemplary manner. Remember, you represent your school both home and away.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your group, your team and the community in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Only use positive cheers in support of your team.
- Work within the guidelines established by the administration, and cooperatively contribute to the coach's efforts whenever possible.
- Remember that you are at a contest to support and yell for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Remember that interscholastic athletics are learning experiences for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.
- Remember that a ticket to an interscholastic athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.

## **Sportsmanship Continued**

The St. Clairsville-Richland City School District and the St. Clairsville Athletic Department recognize the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that young people develop when they have the opportunity to participate in an organized activity outside of the traditional classroom. If the full benefit of athletics as an educational tool is to be utilized, educational institutions must immediately concern themselves with the player, coach and spectator sportsmanship.

### **Ethical consideration is as follows:**

1. Recognize the official as a person of integrity and qualification, and respect the decision accordingly.
2. Refrain from creating the disturbances, which would be detrimental to the flow of the game and or to the safety of the participants involved.
3. Refrain from harassment, profane language or obnoxious behavior in respect to players, coaches and spectators.
4. Become familiar with the rules of the game in order to enjoy it more and to understand the decisions made by the officials.
5. Exhibit respect for the local policies and regulations regarding the use of athletic facilities.
6. Exhibit team loyalties and support without negative action toward the opponents, officials or spectators.

## Training Rules

All athletes are expected to behave in a manner, which reflects positively on the school, and their team. Inappropriate behavior, which reflects negatively, would include such offenses as: truancy, vandalism or theft, abusive language, gestures or profanity, and harassment.

*1<sup>st</sup> offense*- reprimand from administration including possible detention or suspension, notification of parents, or discretion of coach.

*2<sup>nd</sup> offense*- 2 weeks or 2-contest suspension plus possible suspension.

*3<sup>rd</sup> offense*- dismissal from team.

\*Any player written up for flagrant misconduct by an official during an athletic contest will be given a two-contest suspension in accordance with the OHSAA.

The student athlete may not possess, use, or transmit any narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamines, barbiturate, marijuana, steroid, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind. Use of a drug as authorized by a physician shall not be considered a violation of these rules.

*1<sup>st</sup> offense*- 2 week or contest suspension, notification of parents, and possible detention, in-school suspension or suspension.

*2<sup>nd</sup> offense*- suspension from remainder of season and loss of any awards, possible suspension or in-school suspension and mandatory drug or alcohol counseling at parents expense.

*3<sup>rd</sup> offense*- One-year athletic suspension, possible suspension or In-school suspension and mandatory counseling. (These offenses are cumulative in so much that if one suspension is for alcohol and one for drugs that is the 2<sup>nd</sup> offense)

The student athlete shall not possess, use, transmit or conceal any tobacco products on school premises, during school activities or events off school grounds. Tobacco products are defined as, but not limited to, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, cigars and electronic nicotine devices such as e-cigarettes, e-cigars or other vaping devices.

*1<sup>st</sup> offense*- 1 week or 1 contest suspension, possible detention –suspension.

*2<sup>nd</sup> offense*- suspension for remainder of season, possible suspension or In-school suspension..

*3<sup>rd</sup> offense*- suspension for one year from all athletic events and In-school suspension.

Any student found to possess or threatening the use of a dangerous weapon, explosive, or anything detrimental to the health, safety and security of the

occupants may be immediately removed from the team and will be dealt with according to the student handbook and the laws thereof.

All athletes will comply with the specific training rules and regulation for their sport distributed to them by their coach.

Situations not mentioned above will be handled by the coach of the team and will be referred to the director of athletics and principal.

The Athletic Board retains the right to reprimand any athlete for attitudinal reasons or any other cause, which would reflect unfavorable on the St. Clairsville-Richland School District, its athletes, academics, faculty, or administration. The maximum penalty that shall be imposed is exclusion from participation in co-curricular activities for one year from the date of occurrence. Due process shall be followed.

### **Varsity Letter Requirements**

#### **A. Football**

Must play in  $\frac{1}{2}$  the quarters of the regular season games or if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. Participation for one play would constitute a quarter.

#### **B. Basketball**

Must play in  $\frac{1}{2}$  the quarters of the regular season games or if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. Participation for one play would constitute a quarter.

#### **C. Track**

Must score in  $\frac{1}{2}$  the regular scheduled meets or in one of the major meets. If injured, they may receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

#### **D. Golf**

Must be designated player in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the matches. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

#### **E. Wrestling**

1<sup>st</sup> year must score 12 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> year-18 points 3<sup>rd</sup> year- 24 points 4<sup>th</sup> year 36 points. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

#### **F. Cross Country**

Must place in the top 5 team positions to receive one point- a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> team position finish is worth  $\frac{1}{2}$  point. To letter, an athlete must score a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$  the total number of points. (Each race is one point.)

#### **G. Baseball/Softball**

Must play  $\frac{1}{2}$  the innings or  $\frac{1}{2}$  the games or if injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach. A pitcher, because of the uniqueness of the position, may also be given an award at the coaches discretion.

#### **H. Volleyball**

Must participate in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the games. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

#### **I. Tennis**

Must participate in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the varsity matches. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

J. Cheerleaders

Currently under review (6/10/08)

K. Soccer

Must participate in 1/2 of the varsity games. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

L. Senior Athlete Letter

Seniors can be granted a letter if they have not met the letter criteria for a particular sport providing they participated in that sport for the entire season. These are given at the discretion of the coach.

If a senior has been awarded a previous letter or letters in their freshman, sophomore or junior years and has not met the requirements for a letter their senior year, they will not receive an upgraded letter.

M. Swimming

Must score a total of 50 points in practice or the regular scheduled meets. If injured, receive an award at the discretion of the coach.

**Athletic Awards**

Participation Award

First Letter

Second Letter

Third Letter

Fourth Letter

Certificate

Letter/sport pin

Certificate frame/bar

Picture frame/bar

Plaque/bar

There will be no Frosh/Reserve awards other than a certificate in any sport.

Coaches are not to present any special awards other than the awards listed under special awards. Athletic awards will be presented at the awards ceremony.

\*All athletes are strongly encouraged and expected to attend their post- season awards banquet.

**Special Awards**

Football

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Strager Award

Baseball

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Basketball

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Softball

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Wrestling

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Volleyball

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Track

Most Valuable Player

Tennis

Most Valuable Player

Most Improved Player

Most Improved Player

Cross Country

Most Valuable Player  
Most Improved Player

Saints Club

Outstanding Senior Athlete (M)  
Outstanding Senior Athlete (F)

Golf

Most Valuable Player  
Most Improved Player

Moms Club

Senior Awards

Swimming

Most Valuable Player  
Most Improved Player

Soccer

Most Valuable Player  
Most Improved Player

**Athletic Ticket Policy**

The following are ticket prices for school athletic events:

**Football Season Prices**

Pre-Sale <u>Student</u>	Pre-Sale <u>Adult</u>	General Admission at gate <u>One Price</u>
\$5.00	\$5.00	\$7.00

Reserve Seating at \$7 at the number of home games.

	<u>Student</u>	<u>Adult</u>
Volleyball	\$3.00	\$5.00
Soccer	\$3.00	\$5.00
Reserve Football	\$3.00	\$5.00
Freshman Football	\$3.00	\$5.00
Basketball	\$5.00	\$5.00
Swimming	\$3.00	\$5.00
Wrestling	\$3.00	\$5.00
Baseball	\$3.00	\$5.00
Softball	\$3.00	\$5.00
Track & Field	\$3.00	\$5.00
MIDDLE SCHOOL	\$3.00	\$4.00

- \* Adult Athletic Passes \$ 75 if purchased in fall, \$50 if purchased in winter and \$25 if purchased in the spring
- \*Student Athletic Passes \$35 (“family” rate of 3 or more available upon request; \$90.00)
- \*Senior Citizen Passes \$20

### **Athlete Information**

#### **Physical Examinations:**

Each athlete must have a physical on file in the athletic directors office prior to participation in any sport. Physical forms can be accessed at [www.stcschools.com](http://www.stcschools.com) or may be picked up in the athletic or main office.

#### **OHSAA Rules and Regulations:**

Rules and regulations can be viewed at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) topics include:

- Residency
- Academic eligibility
- Age and semester rules
- Transfers
- Non-school teams

#### **St. Clairsville High School/Middle School:**

Students must earn passing five credits and have a G.P.A. of 1.5 or better in the grading period prior to or during their specific sport season.

#### **NCAA eligibility rules:**

The NCAA website is [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) this site provides student athletes with up to date information concerning eligibility and ncaa clearinghouse guidelines. All students that plan to play a sport at any Division I or Division II school must register with the clearinghouse. The NCAA clearinghouse also has a toll free number 1-877-262-4492.

#### **Directions to and schedules of other schools:**

Directions to schools of Red Devil opponents can be accessed at [www.highschoolsports.net](http://www.highschoolsports.net) or [www.stcschools.com](http://www.stcschools.com) these websites also provide up to date schedules.